

4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This chapter presents the environmental analysis of potential impacts from the five alternatives described in Chapter 2 of this EIS. It is divided into fourteen sections, each of which covers a potential area of impact addressed in Chapter 3, such as traffic and circulation or noise. Some of the sections begin with a description of the methodology used, if appropriate. Each section includes standards used to judge the significance of potential impacts. The section then describes the potential impacts of each alternative and lists measures to mitigate them.

NEPA does not have a single set of standards against which proposed actions can be evaluated. Therefore, criteria for assessing the significance of impacts for all sections were based on professional standards and, to some degree, on the State's guidelines for implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code 21000 *et seq.*). Although the proposed action is not subject to CEQA, the State's CEQA guidelines provide thorough standards that served as benchmarks in preparing this EIS.

Impacts are numbered consecutively regardless of the alternatives to which they apply. Impact numbers begin with a reference to the section they are related to, such as "GEO" for geology or "CIR" for traffic and circulation. After each numbered impact is a list of the alternatives to which the impact applies.

All impacts are significant prior to mitigation unless noted otherwise. All mitigation measures would reduce impacts to a less-than-significant level unless stated otherwise.

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